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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: OMACHI

SERIAL NO.: 09/855,971

FILED: May 15, 2001

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DOCKET: NEC N01268

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicant hereby attach
U.S. Patent Office Form PTOL-1449, including a copy of the prior art reference listed therein.
The reference is discussed in the specification. The claims in the present application are
believed to be patentably distinguished over this reference.

This information disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of
disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made
that the information thus disclosed in fact constitute prior art or that it is the closest prior art,
inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please
charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 15, 2001 at Manchester, New Hampshire.

By: Gratias Stevens

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~~(Use several sheets if necessary)~~

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OMACHI

MAY 15, 2001

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